

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AGR-05 AID-05 EB-07 OES-03 COME-00 ISO-00

TRSE-00 IOE-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 OIC-02

SP-02 /074 W

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P 111638Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9478

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO

SUBJECT: CANDIDATE FOR FAO DIRECTOR-GENERAL

1. ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR WORLD FOOD COUNCIL
JOHN HANNAH, IN MEETING HE HAD REQUESTED WITH GENEVA GROUP
IN ROME (PLUS DANISH AND NORWEGIAN REPRESENTATIVES AS OB-
SERVERS) TO BRIEF THEM ON INSTITUTIONAL FOLLOW-UP TO WORLD
FOOD CONFERENCE, CLOSED BY RAISING SUBJECT OF CANDIDATES
FOR DIRECTOR-GENERAL POST IN FAO. HE SAID HE CONSIDERED
THIS HIGHLY IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION IN WORLD FOOD ACTIVITIES.
IN HIS OPINION, NATIONALITY AND COLOR WOULD BE UNIMPORTANT
AS COMPARED WITH HIGH CAPABILITIES OF INDIVIDUAL. HE
SUGGESTED IT WOULD BE BEST TO LOOK OUTSIDE FAO, TO BRING IN
VIGOROUS NEW LEADERSHIP. HE SAID HE HAD IN RECENT DAYS
SOUNDED OUT AT SAME TIME TWO HIGHLY QUALIFIED MEN:

A) SIR JOHN CRAWFORD OF AUSTRALIA, CHAIRMAN OF TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE, AND B) DAVID HOPPER, HEAD OF CANADA'S
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTER. NEITHER WAS
INTERESTED IN CAMPAIGNING FOR JOB, BUT BOTH SEEMED WILLING
TO BE DRAFTED.

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2. NEW ZEALAND REPRESENTATIVE TO FAO THEN ANNOUNCED NEW
ZEALAND, AFTER MANY FAVORABLE REACTIONS FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS,

HAD DEFINITELY DECIDED TO NOMINATE ERIC OJALA. HANNAH SAID
OJALA IS WIDELY KNOWN AND WELL RESPECTED.

3. AFTER HANNAH LEFT MEETING, AUSTRALIAN DELEGATE SAID AUSTRALIAN
GOVERNMENT HAD ONCE THOUGHT OF NOMINATING CRAWFORD, BUT HAD
DECIDED HE WAS TOO BUSY IN HIS PRESENT JOB AND PROBABLY WOULD
NOT BE INTERESTED. CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE SAID HE COULD
NOT COMMENT AT ALL ON HOPPER.

4. DURING MEETING, JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE REITERATED POSITION
OF HIS GOVERNMENT ON FAO DIRECTOR-GENERAL--THAT IT WOULD WAIT
UNTIL LAST POSSIBLE MOMENT BEFORE COMMITTING ITSELF. VOLPE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ROME02028
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750049-0970
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750253/aaaabvvk.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <05 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CANDIDATE FOR FAO DIRECTOR-GENERAL
TAGS: EAGR, FAO, WMO, UN, WORLD FOOD COUNCIL
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006